



## Another small gulp of info-- as requested by Jimmy Christiansen

### National Contingency Plan

In 1967 off the coast of England the huge oil tanker *Torrey Canyon* spilled 37 million gallons of crude oil into the ocean. In 1968 a year after, the United States in response to that oil spill and created what is to be known as The National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan more commonly called the National Contingency Plan.

The plan was our country's first efforts to develop a national response capability and promote overall coordination among the hierarchy of respondents and contingency plans.

It represented the first comprehensive system of accident reporting, spill containment, and cleanup, and established a response headquarters, as well as national and regional response teams.

In 1972 congress broadened the scope of the National Contingency Plan as required by the Clean Water Act of 1972.

In 1973 the plan was again broadened to include the framework for responding to hazardous substance spills. That's where Libby fits!!!!!!

Following the passage of the Superfund Legislation in 1980 the NCP was again broadened to cover release at hazardous waste sites requiring emergency removal actions. The latest revision came in 1990 after the passage of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990.

The plan establishes National Response Teams- even though the National Response Team does not directly respond to incidents, it is responsible for three major activities related to managing responses:

- distributing information
- planning for emergencies
- training for emergencies

Part of the directive: **Science and Technology Committee**--provides national coordination on issues that parallel those addressed by the **Scientific Support Coordinator** on an incident by incident basis. The focus of this committee is on identifying developed technology and monitor research and development of response technologies.

**Regional Response Teams** EPA personnel chair the National Response team and co-chairs the Regional Response Teams. The EPA funds a third team-- **Environmental Response Team** --which can be dispatched to On-Scene Coordinators (OSC) **Jimmy**, to provide support for site assessment, health and safety issues, action plan development, and contamination monitoring. Legal expertise is also available from EPA to interpret environmental statutes. **Matt Cohn**.....